

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY OPIC/F:HLFREEMAN;BHENDERSON

EB/IFD/OIA:RJSMITH

EB/IFD/OIA:DHSTEBBING

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AFR/ESA:JKNOLL(INFO)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY MASERU

UNCLAS STATE 248556

E.O.11652:NA

TAGS: EINV

SUBJECT: VISIT OF OPIC REPRESENTATIVES

1. HARRY L. FREEMAN, VICE-PRESIDENT-FINANCE, NOW PLANNING TO VISIT BOTSWANA, SWAZILAND AND LESOTHO WITH A VIEW TO FAMILIARIZATION OF INVESTMENT CLIMATE AND IDENTIFICATION OF ATTRACTIVE PROJECTS FOR OPIC FINANCING AND PLITICAL RISK INSURANCE. ALSO, BONNY HENDERSON, HEAD OF OPIC FINANCING ACTIVITIES FOR AFRICA, PLANS TO VISIT BOTSWANA DURING SAME TIME WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON DISCUSSING WITH FIELD AND APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF GOB THE CATTLE GRAZING AND RELATED OPPORTUNITIES.

2. FREEMAN PLANS TO COME FROM KINSHASA AROUND DECEMBER 4 NIGHT OR DECEMBER 5 TO JOHANNESBURG AND WOULD LIKE TO VISIT ALL THREE COUNTRIES FIELD AND TIME PERMITTING, WITH DEPARTURE FROM AREA AROUND DECEMBER 13 OR 14. HENDERSON PLANS TO ARRIVE BOTSWANA ON DECEMBER 12TH EVENING FLIGHT FROM JOHANNESBURG AND FREEMAN IDEALLY WOULD LIKE TO ACCOMPANY HER INBOUND. HENDERSON WOULD THEN STAY ON IN BOTSWANA UNTIL AROUND DECEMBER 17TH.

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3. WOULD APPRECIATE FIELD'S THINKING AS TO RECEPTIVITY AND TIMING,

AND ALSO IN FREEMAN'S CASE WHAT IS THE BEST TRANSPORTATION
ARRANGEMENT TO MAXIMIZE TIME IN BOTSWANA, SWAZILAND AND LESOTHO
IN VIEW OF INFREQUENT AND UNCONNECTING AIR SCHEDULES DURING TIME
PERIOD DECEMBER 5 TO 13 OR 14. IDEALLY FREEMAN WOULD LIKE TO
SEE SOME APPROPRIATE HOST COUNTRY OFFICIALS IN ALL THREE COUNTRIES
TO DISCUSS NOT ONLY INVESTMENT CLIMATE IN GENERAL BUT ALSO SPECIFIC
PRIORITIES AND PROJECTS OF EACH COUNTRY. KISSINGER

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